Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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64

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 NIC-01 IO-14 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /132 W

----- 061795

R 092152Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO BHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 4563

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

CONFIDENTIAL CARACAS 6267

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR VE CU

SUBJECT: POSSIBILITY OF VENEZUELAN REESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS WITH CUBA

REF: STATE 133491 (NOTAL)

1. I CALLED ON FONMIN SCHACHT THIS AFTERNOON AND MADE REPRESENTATION OUTLINED REFTEL. IT WAS CLEAR THAT WHETHER I HAD SEEN HIM THIS WEEK OR A MONTH AGO, DECISION OF VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT HAD ALREADY BEEN TAKEN TO RECOGNIZE CUBA.

2. FONMIN SAID THAT IT HAD BEEN AGREED BETWEEN COLOMBIA AND VENEZUELA THAT THE TWO GOVERNMENTS WOULD GO HAND IN HAND ON RESUMPTION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH CUBA AND COROLLARY ENDING OF ECONOMIC SANCTIONS. HE SAID THAT PANAMA WOULD ALSO JOIN WITH THESE TWO SENIOR BOLIVARIAN COUNTRIES; AND THAT HE EXPECTED THAT COSTA RICA (BECAUSE OF ITS FRIENDLY ASSOCIATIONS WITH PRESIDENT PEREZ) AND PROBABLY ALSO HONDURAS WOULD JOIN IN A FIVE-POWER MOVEMENT TO VOTE REESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS WITH CUBA.

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3. COMMENT: IN VIEW OF STATE VISIT OF PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA

OF MEXICO, WHO IS DUE IN CARACAS JULY 25, I WOULD SPECULATE THAT VENEZUELA WILL ANNOUNCE ITS CHANGE IN POLICY TOWARD CUBA BEFORE ARRIVAL OF MEXICAN PRESIDENT IN ORDER NOT TO GIVE IMPRESSION THAT IT HAS RESPONDED TO OUTSIDE PRESSURE.

MCCLINTOCK

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHMENT, RECOGNITION, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 09 JUL 1974 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: martinml
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974CARACA06267

Document Number: 1974CARACA06267 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Film Number: D740183-0026

From: CARACAS Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740766/aaaacels.tel

Line Count: 66

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION ARA Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: STATE 133491 (NOTAL) Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: martinml

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 11 SEP 2002

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <19 FEB 2003 by martinml>

Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: POSSIBILITY OF VENEZUELAN REESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS WITH CUBA TAGS: PFOR, VE, CU, HO, CS
To: BHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 4563

Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005